



The Parable of the Prodigal Son  
The Father shows mercy and forgiveness to his son



**LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)**  
Matthew Kelly has a recently released book entitled Rediscover Jesus. In it, Kelly offers two suggestions on how to read the book: the first is to read it like you would any other

book from cover to cover, the second way is to read a little bit each day and use it as a guide to a forty day spiritual journey. While away on vacation (no, not in Ghana) I came upon Chapter 23, *Upside Down*. The premise of the chapter is “*God wants to turn your life upside down.*” Ain’t that the truth? When we open the door to Jesus and let him into our lives, our lives become transformed and we are changed forever. Jesus radically transforms the people that He encounters by challenging them, resulting in the follower rearranging his/her priorities. So many times I hear people say (yes, I am guilty of this too) “be careful what you ask God for, you might get what you want.” Because encountering Jesus results in such drastic personal life changes, sometimes we try to avoid contact with Jesus because we’re afraid of what that encounter will mean in our lives. We ask questions like: What will Jesus ask of me? What might I have to let go of? Where will Jesus lead me? How will I be able to trust fully in Him? If you’ve ever said “yes” to Jesus’ command to “*follow me,*” look back on things you thought were so very important to you, and you realize today that those things you once held as top priorities, were not – and that your “*new priorities have more truth, beauty and wisdom.*” In the Gospels we read/hear of many people encountering Jesus whose lives are radically transformed. Kelly tells stories of Zacchaeus, Nicodemus, Joseph of Arimathea, the rich young man, Lazarus, Saul, rich people, poor people, those who quickly followed Jesus and those who were slow to follow him. Kelly states that “*in each of these people who encounter Jesus, we find a piece of ourselves.*” Those persons who open their hearts to Jesus go through a radical transformation in their lives; are you ready to encounter Jesus so that your life, too, may be turned *upside down*? We don’t always know the follow-up or the ending to the stories of the people who encountered Jesus in the Gospels, but we do know that their lives were enriched and that they experienced deep joy as a result of their encounter with Jesus. Pray to be open. A question that Matthew asks his readers to consider is: “*What’s preventing you from making yourself available to God?*” He asks his readers to pray: *Jesus, I make myself 100 percent available to you today.*”

Written by Colette Savaria (LIFE Coordinator)

**First Eucharist Classes** continue on Thurs., March 19 from 3:30-4:45pm in the Parish Center.

March LIFE celebrations, please note: Adults and High School/Confirmation Students must participate in at least one session of our Parish Mission (in place of March LIFE). Children in grades K-8 will have a take-home lesson (emailed to parents) to complete with their parent at home before the April 3 and April 4 LIFE celebrations. Parents who need a lesson mailed to you, please contact Colette at [stlucyyouth@juno.com](mailto:stlucyyouth@juno.com).

**March 14, 15, 16 is our Parish Mission** with the theme: “*Jesus Christ is the Face of the Father’s Mercy*” (Pope Francis). On these three days of prayer and reflection we will ask God for the grace of deepening in Jesus’ compassion and mercy. Rev. Harry Cain, S.J. will be speaking at all the Masses next weekend as part of our Mission which will continue on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (3/14-16) at the 9am Mass and at 7pm. The Mission presenters will be Rev. Cain and Virginia Blass. There will be a Penance Service at 7pm on Tuesday, March 15.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54  
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16  
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30  
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47  
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53  
Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

Please **pray** for all the men and women who have served and who currently serve in the armed forces, and the military commanders who lead them. **Pray** for our homebound Parishioners and the sick of the Parish (including those in hospitals and nursing homes). **Pray** for the unborn, the premature, and the fragile among us so that we may deepen our respect for life at all stages.

**CHURCH SUPPORT – Feb. 27/28, 2016**

**Weekly Collection \$6334.00**  
**Friendly Reminder:** For your convenience donations can now be made electronically. **The total donations through Electronic Giving for the month of February was \$2403.00.** It is simple, secure, and convenient! Detailed instructions are on our web site ([www.stlucy.org](http://www.stlucy.org)).  
**Thank you for your continuing generosity.**

**Thank you for your participation in the Friends’ Fund Program of Clements’ Market.** We recently received \$376.36 bringing our total amount to almost \$6000.00 since this Program started in 1997. **Thank you** for all the Clements’ Market grocery receipts which can be left in the box on the table at the back of the Church.



**SCRIPTURE STUDY** led by Jane Parrillo continues on Tues., March 8 from 9:45 to 10:30am in the family room of the Church. The upcoming Sunday readings will be discussed. All are welcome.

**SOUP KITCHEN NEEDS**

**Tuesday, March 15**

4 bags oranges 100 small paper plates (6 inch)  
1 box salt 1 can black pepper  
Assorted finger desserts (cupcakes, cookies, brownies)

If you would like to help with any of the above items, please call Sylvia Bunker at 683-0320. You may drop off your donations at the Rectory anytime before 3pm on Tuesday, March 15. We served 73 meals in February. **Thank you!**

**A Transformational Music and Speaking Event** will be held at St. Barnabas on Thursday, March 10 at 7pm. What if this Lent really was a turning point in your life? Find a deeper connection with God through this uplifting event. Tajci Cameron will be the presenter. She is an award winning singer, TV show host, published author and creator of “I Thirst” which is the acclaimed musical adaptation of the Crucifixion Story. For more information, please call 683-1343.

**A Day of Prayer and Reflection** for men will be held on Saturday, March 19 from 7:45am to 3:30pm at Bryant University in Smithfield, RI. This event is co-sponsored by the Men of St. Joseph International and the Diocese of Providence Office of Faith Formation. The main speakers on “**A Man’s Role in the Year of Mercy**” will be Bishop Thomas J. Tobin and Rev. John Codega, Pastor of St. Brendan Parish in Riverside. For more information and/or car-pooling, please contact Luke Harding at 862-4407 or [luke@ugnasons.com](mailto:luke@ugnasons.com).

**SCHOLARSHIP** Applications From the General Rosecrans Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, Newport, are available in the Rectory. Applicant must be a resident of Newport County, a graduate of an accredited High school, and a member in good standing of a Catholic Church; or a dependent of a member, or grandchild of a member of General Rosecrans Assembly, living or deceased.

**Bishop Hendricken Open House** will be held on Sunday, March 13 from noon to 3pm. Information on the academics, college placement, athletic and extracurricular activities will be available. The entrance exam for prospective freshmen and sophomore transfers will be held on Saturday, April 9 at 8:30am. For more information or to pre-register, please call the Admissions Office at 739-3450 ext. 162.

**All Saints STEAM Academy Spring Scholarship Tea** will be held at St. Lucy’s Hall on April 10 from 1-3pm. Get your \$12 ticket for this annual event and take a chance on many beautiful raffle prizes. Call 848-4300 for tickets/information.

**The 2016 CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL is progressing!** Many of you have already responded to the Catholic Charity Appeal mailing from Bishop Tobin. **Thank you for your generosity!!**

**MASS INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE**

Saturday, March 5  
5:00pm Julia Jordan Finn  
Sunday, March 6 **Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
8:00am Marjorie Skahill (5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
10:30am Arthur Hines  
5:00pm Faye Allen (7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
Monday, March 7  
9:00am Julia Jordan Finn  
Tuesday, March 8  
9:00am Arthur Leonard  
Wednesday, March 9  
9:00am Irene Moskow  
Thursday, March 10  
9:00am Communion Service  
Friday, March 11  
9:00am Paul Gordon  
In Thanksgiving for Mary Grace  
5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
7:00pm Stations of the Cross  
7:50pm Benediction  
Saturday, March 12  
1:30pm Mass at Grand Islander  
5:00pm Mary Lou Rogers and John E. Rogers  
Sunday, March 13 **Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
8:00am Alice Greer  
10:30am Marjorie Skahill (Birthday Remembrance)  
5:00pm Kathleen Sekunda (30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

**During this Lenten season** we are reminded to “*Give alms...Pray to your Father...Fast without a gloomy face.*” (Matt 6:1-18). If you haven’t been intentional in your spiritual life, it’s not too late to start now. **Lenten prayer books and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowls are still available.** The CRS program is an educational and spiritual tool which



can be used to enhance our awareness of the poor in the world. Seventy-five percent of the monetary gifts support agricultural projects, water and sanitation projects, micro finance projects, health and educational projects throughout the world, while twenty-five goes to hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in our community.